Foreign Crops and MARKETS

VOLUME 53 NUMBER 4

Wheat Acreage in Canada's Prairie Provinces This Year 12-Percent Higher Than Year Ago. Lower Acreage Reported for Other Grains (Page 461)

Antarctic Whale-Oil Output Much Greater in 1945-46 Than Wartime Average But Still Less Than One-Third The Prewar Level. Radar Used to Detect Icebergs (Page 453)

FOR RELEASE
MONDAY
JULY 29, 1946

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Issued by the OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Argentina's 1946 sugarcane harvest was estimated officially at 8,873,500 short tons from a planted area of 618,250 acres. This production is 22.7 percent above that for 1944-45 and 44.2 percent over the 5-year average. In view of conditions to date favorable for a higher percentage of sugar yield than from the frosted crop a year ago, informed trade representatives think the total return may reach 661,380 tons of raw sugar, exceeding domestic requirements by as much as 88,200 tons.

Swedish food rations for normal consumers during June and July in grams per capita daily were as follows: flour, 151.5; rolled oats, 11.9; fats, 33.3, and meat, 57.4. Cheese was removed from rationing on July 22. An extra ration of 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of sugar per capita was allowed for canning.

Preliminary estimates place France's 1946 tobacco production at about 91 million pounds from 58,000 acres. In 1945, the country harvested about 65 million pounds from 42,000 acres. Production during the 5-year (1935-1939) period, averaged 73 million pounds from 44,000 acres.

Nicaraguan crop prospects have been affected adversely by insufficient rainfall. Coffee has not been damaged to date but planters state that rain must come soon if an average crop is to be realized. The August bean crop is almost entirely lost, and the production of corn, rice, and sesame seed will be at least 40 percent below normal. Exports of beans, corn and rice have been prohibited until the extent of the crop damage is determined and a survey of existing food stocks has been made.

The Greek tobacco crop for 1946 is expected to range between 100 and 110 million pounds from 150,000 acres, or about double the low 1945 production of 53 million pounds.

The Belgian crop outlook is favorable. On the basis of present conditions, yields should be at least average and considerably better than last year. Belgian producers will be required to deliver their entire 1946 harvests of wheat, spelt and meslin. Deliveries are to be made on the basis of their plantings and officially estimated yields for their community after allowances for seed and producer's rations, etc. Oats will be free from delivery obligations. Rye and other feed grain must be delivered, but deliveries of meat may be substituted in partial settlement of delivery obligations for feed grains.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDS 1/

UNITED STATES CONTINUES RECORD EXPORTS OF RICE

United States rice exports during May 1946 amounted to 34 million pounds, bringing the total for August to May of the 1945-46 marketing year to 620 million pounds compared with previous largest exports of 430 million in the same 10-months period of the preceding year. Principal destinations for exports during May were China and Cuba. During the year relatively large quantities of United States rice have been shipped to countries in Asia which were in need of this cereal as a result of the war.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries, August-May, 1945-46, with comparisons a/

Country of destination	August-July			August-May	
	Average 1937-38 to 1941-42	1943-44	1944-45 b/	1944-45 b/	1945-46 b/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
United Kingdom	6	60	18	17	c/
Soviet Union	c/	51	35	26	5
Sweden	7	c/	c/	c/	0
Greece	6	5	7	5	1
Netherlands	5	0	21	13	c/
Belgium	7	0	0	0	1
Other Europe	12	1	15	15	6
Total Europe	43	117	96	76	13
Cuba	275	298	333	301	314
Canada	19	37	36	34	29
British West Indies	c/	11	3	2	10
Netherlands Indies	d/	0	0	0	60
Philippine Islands	1	0	0	0	128
China	d/	0	0	0	50
Others	20	21	23	19	18
Total	358	484	491	432	622

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.
a/ Includes milled rice and rough rice converted in terms of milled at 65 percent. b/ Preliminary. c/ Less than 500,000 pounds. d/ If any, included in others.

The Grain Section is continued on page 460

DROUGHT IN NICARAGUA
HALTS RICE EXPORTS

In Nicaragua, the first rice crop of the 1946-47 season is expected to be reduced 40 percent by drought, and complete failure may occur if rain does not appear soon. Because of the bad crop conditions in that country, the Government has stopped granting export permits of some commodities, including rice, until inventory is taken of food stocks on hand.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERS

WEEKLY COTTON PRICES
ON FOREIGN MARKETS

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1946	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U. S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	7-18	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	36.00	30.06
Giza 7, F.G.F.	7-18	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	Not quoted	
Karnak, F.G.F.			Tallari	Not quoted	
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, fine	7-18	784 lbs.	Rupee	466.00	17.94
Kampala, East African	7-18	784 lbs.	Rupee	850.00	32.72
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B	7-20	2204.6 lbs	Peso	2080.00	28.09
Lima		Sp.quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5	7-20	101.4 lbs.	Sol	178.00	27.00
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5	7-19	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	135.00	21.90
Sertao, Type 5	7-19	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	135.00	21.90
Sao Paulo		Arroba			
Sao Paulo, Type 5	7-19	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	175.50	28.47
Torreon		Sp.quintal			
Middling, 15/16"	7-19	101.4 lbs.	Peso	119.25	24.22

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

EAST AFRICA'S COTTON
ESTIMATES LOWER

The 1945-46 cotton crop in Uganda previously estimated at 272,000 bales (of 478 pounds), is now placed at 192,000 bales compared with 228,000 in 1944-45. Heavy rains during the latter part of November resulted in considerable damage by insects and diseases. Heat and drought were more severe than usual in January and caused some loss in yields by preventing the maturing of the top crop.

The British Ministry of Supply still purchases the entire crop at an agreed price as it did during the war. Exports of the 1945-46 crop are

expected to be divided as follows: 129,000 bales to India, 62,000 to the United Kingdom, and 1,000 to Ceylon.

The 1946-47 crop in Tanganyika, to be picked in August and September, is estimated at 36,000 bales compared with 35,000 in 1945-46 and 21,000 the previous year.

All cotton production estimates for Kenya for 1940-41 through 1945-46 were recently revised as figures previously provided by the Kenya Department of Agriculture included only cotton grown by natives and not that grown by Indians and Europeans. The revised figures beginning with 1940-41 (in terms of 478 pound bales) are: 37,000, 32,000, 11,000, 14,000, 13,000 and 4,000 bales, respectively.

In Nyasaland the 1945-46 crop was reported as about equal to the 7,000 bales produced in 1944-45. A summary of the above figures indicates a net reduction for all British East Africa from 269,000 bales in 1944-45 to 238,000 in 1945-46.

FATS AND OILS

ANTARCTIC WHALE-OIL OUTPUT INCREASED

Antarctic whale oil production for the 1945-46 season, beginning November 24, and ending April 24, reached 153,000 short tons, according to reports from factory ships and catchers arriving in Cape Town, South Africa. The output is estimated to be around three times the wartime average, but less than one-third of prewar (1934-1938) average.

With Germany and Japan removed from the industry, only Norway and the United Kingdom engaged in pelagic whaling in Antarctic waters during 1945-46. Only nine factory ships participated in the season's catch compared with 35 that operated in 1938-39. About 90 percent of world production of whale-oil comes from Antarctic waters.

Unusually bad weather conditions prevailed during the past season. Heavy gales were encountered on the average of once a week, which delayed operations. Contrary to the expectation that the whales would be heavy and plentiful after limited whaling activity during the war years, the whales killed were reported comparatively light in weight and difficult to find. On the other hand, financial returns for the season were good. Reports indicate that the price had risen to as high at $266 per ton of oil before the end of the season, rising from approximately $180 per ton early in the season, which was around twice the prewar average.

Radar was used for the first time by the whaling industry for detecting icebergs. Next season it is expected that amphibian planes, carried on deck and catapulted therefrom, will be used by some ships for locating whales.

1946 CUBAN FATS AND OILS IMPORTS UP

Cuban imports of fats and oils during the first six months of 1946 were around 45 million pounds, compared with approximately 40 million pounds during the same period in 1945. Stocks of lard and most vegetable oils during 1946 were insufficient to meet the consumer's demand. Soap fats and linseed oil were in somewhat better supply although the quantities available fell short of domestic requirements.

June soybean oil imports, 2.7 million pounds, were the best for any month during 1946 owing to the resumption of tank car service, which made possible the shipment of oil awaiting transport from the United States. Gross lard receipts, 4 million pounds in June, were smaller than during recent months.

Soap fat arrivals in June consisted of 1.3 million pounds of tallow and 667,000 pounds of other soap fats such as animal grease, inedible peanut oil, coconut and palm oil. Olive oil imports, 220,176 pounds in June, were the largest monthly arrivals since the war, and sold for over $1.00 per pound in the open market, Habana. All June fats and oils shipments came from the United States.

The domestic output of butter, lard and tallow were maintained at relatively high levels, and were rapidly absorbed by the domestic market. Favorable weather conditions during June continued the bright outlook for the peanut crop. The harvest and oil crushing operations are expected to begin in the month of August.

CUBA: Imports of specified fats and oils

	Inedible tallow	Coconut oil	Palm oil	Linseed oil	Lard	Soybean oil	Edible tallow	Olive oil
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Average - 1936-1940	2,780	4,945	16,180	2,402	47,000	9,990	300	8,498
1941.....	11,150	6,290	7,200	3,796	65,600	7,330	4	33
1942.....	35,730	370	16	3,183	62,490	8,170	1,750	1
1943 a/ ..	16,805	370	60	3,675	79,665	15,710	2,670	17
1944 a/...	21,135	0	0	2,326	66,343	2,615	648	0
1945 a/...	12,808	32	7	3,716	60,724	13,432	0	375
1945 January to June a/..	5,762	0	0	1,012	24,702	5,142	-	58
1946 January to June a/..	4,560	488	669	1,816	b/ 34,866	b/ 5,749	-	366

Official sources through 1942.
a/ Preliminary and unofficial. b/ Gross weight

INDIA'S WINTER OILSEED
CROPS BELOW AVERAGE

India's 1945-46 winter oilseed crops (flaxseed, rapeseed and mustard seed) are below average. The country's need for food was probably responsible for lower acreages and the extreme drought during the growing season reduced the yield per acre. Flaxseed production, amounting to 14,760,000 bushels is the smallest since 1942. The rape and mustard seed harvest of 1,018,000 short tons is the smallest in more than a decade. With short crops and increased domestic consumption, the embargo on oilseed shipments from India will likely be in force throughout 1946.

INDIA: Flaxseed, rapeseed and mustard seed acreage and production a/, 1945-46 with comparisons

Year	Flaxseed		Rapeseed and Mustardseed	
	1,000 acres	1,000 bushels	1,000 acres	1,000 short tons
1941-42	3,348	14,440	6,204	1,220
1942-43	3,406	16,400	5,901	1,200
1943-44	3,523	15,240	5,364	1,032
1944-45 b/	3,465	15,680	5,580	1,158
1945-46	3,376	14,760	5,497	1,018

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Planted August-November, harvest January-April. b/ Revised.

TOBACCO

CANADIAN TOBACCO
CROP SEEN ABOVE 1945

Unofficial estimates placed Canada's 1946 tobacco acreage at about 105,000 acres, and with favorable yields, production of leaf should total more than 100 million pounds. According to revised figures, the 1945 tobacco area amounted to 93,145 acres, which produced 92.3 million pounds of leaf. Early season weather conditions were favorable for this year's tobacco crop in most of the flue-cured area of Ontario. Burley and dark types, however, suffered flood damage in late June, and some replanting was necessary.

Larger tobacco plantings were necessary in 1946 to provide for increasing consumption of tobacco products and to furnish a surplus for export. In 1945, about 77 million pounds of leaf tobacco were taken by manufacturers, compared with 71.8 million 1944, and the 5-year (1939-1943) average of 56.8 million. Manufactured products taxed for consumption during the 8 months ended May 1946 totaled 45.9 million pounds, or about 5 percent more than the quantity taxed during a similar period a year ago.

In 1945, Canada exported 15.6 million pounds of leaf tobacco, compared with 12.4 million the previous year. Most of the exports consisted of flue-cured leaf destined to the United Kingdom and the British West Indies. Exports of Burley totaled 1.7 million pounds in 1945, compared with 1 million in 1944. The United Kingdom and Newfoundland imported most of the shipments of Burley. Exports of cigarettes in 1945, principally to the United Kingdom and Newfoundland, totaled 514 million pieces, compared with 342 million in 1944. Exports of all other tobacco products, in 1945 totaled 365,000 pounds.

Canada's imports of tobacco in 1945 were well below prewar, reflecting the trend towards self-sufficiency. Total leaf imports amounted to 1.6 million pounds, of which 403,000 pounds consisted of Turkish, and 1.1 million pounds of cigar leaf. Most of the cigar leaf originated in Cuba and the United States. Only 35,000 pounds of flue-cured were imported--all from the United States. Imports of products, with the exception of 117,000 pounds of cut tobacco from the United States, were insignificant.

CANADA: Exports of flue-cured tobacco, 1945 with comparisons

Country of destination	1942	1943	1944	1945
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United Kingdom	8,654	7,422	7,455	10,666
Jamaica	787	563	990	700
Trinidad and Tobago	832	753	1,085	1,249
Other British West Indies	191	152	308	549
Australia	0	247	654	0
Others a/	431	401	366	317
Total	10,895	9,538	10,858	13,481

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Principally Newfoundland and British Guiana.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

CANADA REVISES CEILING PRICES ON BEEF

New wholesale and retail ceiling prices on the top three grades and kosher beef became effective July 22. This restores wholesale ceiling prices on the two top grades of beef known as Red and Blue Brands, respectively, which were suspended from May 27 to July 20, because of the scarcity of beef.

During the suspension period, the wholesale prices and the prices of cattle producing these grades of meat advanced which had the desired effect of bringing beef supplies back to the market. In the western provinces,

prices of high-quality steers advanced 2 cents per pound, and wholesale prices of Red and Blue Brands of beef increased 4 cents per pound. In general this pattern of price advances was equaled or exceeded in other provinces.

The new wholesale ceilings provide for an increase in the price of Red Brand beef, ranging, according to established zones, from 1 to 2 cents per pound over the old ceiling. Similar increases are provided for Blue Brand beef. In the case of Commercial grades of beef, the maximum advance is 1 cent per pound over the old ceiling, while in several zones there has been no increase in price. The wholesale ceiling price on Blue Brand in all the zones is 1 cent below the wholesale ceiling of Red Brand beef, and the ceiling on Commercial Brand in all the zones is 1 cent below the ceiling on Blue Brand beef. The wholesale ceiling on Plain Grade beef, cow, bull, and other cutter beef remains unchanged.

The new retail ceilings have been standarized for each zone and some prices have been adjusted. The retailer is required to absorb 1 cent of the advance in wholesale prices for Red and Blue Brands of beef. Any increase in the price of Commercial beef is reflected in the new retail ceilings.

UNITED KINGDOM AND BRITISH
DOMINIONS WOOL AUCTION PROGRAMS

Public auctions sales in the United Kingdom and in Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa are to be resumed in the 1946-47 season according to an announcement of the Joint Organization. Sales are scheduled to begin in September in Australia, the Union of South Africa, and the United Kingdom. In New Zealand crutchings,and old wool will be offered in September and new clip wool in November.

The Austraiian Wool Realization Commission's (the Australian's subsidiary of the J. O.) program provides for offering up to the Christmas vacation of 1,200,000 bales as follows: 696,000 bales in New South Wales and Queensland with opening sales in September, and 284,000 bales in Victoria with opening sales in October. The quantities to be offered in South Australia and Western Australia are 120,000 and 100,000 bales, respectively, the opening sales being in September.

URUGUAYAN WOOL STOCKS
GREATLY REDUCED

Apparent exportable supplies of wool in Uruguay as of July 1, are estimated at approximately 18 million pounds of sold and unsold wool compared with 80 million pounds at the same date of 1945 and 114 million pounds on July 1, 1944.

The balance of available unsold wool from the current clip was small and the market was reported as quiet with prices showing no change.

Prices of super fine crossbreds, grease basis at Montevideo the last week of May ranged from 32.5 to 33.8 cents a pound, an increase of 11 percent above the same date a year ago. Superior crossbreds were quoted at about 8 percent higher and good crossbreds at 2 percent higher.

Exports for the first 9 months of the current season (October-June) totaled 112 million pounds and were almost 20 percent below last year's record but still 17 percent above the prewar average for the same period.

URUGUAY: Wool exports October-June 1945-46 with comparisons

October 1 to June 30	To the United States	Total	Percentage of total to the United States
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Average -			
1934-35 to 1938-39	13	96	14
1939-40	28	92	30
1940-41	110	130	85
1941-42	38	49	78
1942-43	68	72	94
1943-44	68	77	88
1944-45	127	138	92
1945-46	74	112	66

Compiled from information supplied by United States Embassy at Buenos Aires.

URUGUAY: Exports by principal destination, prewar and 1939-40 to 1945-46

Season beginning October 1	United States	United Kingdom	Continental Europe	Japan	All other countries	Total
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average -						
1934-1938	15	20	72	8	0	115
1939	37	1	62	6	0	106
1940	120	0	10	8	a/ 7	145
1941	43	0	13	b/	2	58
1942	98	0	6	0	1	105
1943	100	0	8	0	2	110
1944	174	0	29	0	1	204
October-June						
1944	127	0	10	0	1	138
1945	74	0	32	0	c/ 5	111

Compiled from information furnished by United States Embassy at Buenos Aires.
a/ Russia took 5,574,000 pounds in 1940-41. b/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
c/ Russia took 5,150,000, the first time any has gone to that country from Uruguay since 1940-41.

This season so far exports to the United States have totaled 74 million pounds against 127 million pounds a year ago. Exports picked up in the months February though May but fell off in June, indicating that most of the desirable types had been marketed by that time. The percentage going to the United States has dropped to 66 percent of the total whereas during the war years the United States took from 78 to 94 percent of the total. In prewar years only about 14 percent of Uruguay's wool surplus was marketed in the United States.

Exports to Continental Europe in the first 9 months of the current season were over 3 times as large as in the same period of 1944-45 but

URUGUAY: Exports by countries
October-June 1945-46 with comparisons

Country to which exported	1944-45	1945-46
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Non-European		
United States	127,406	74,443
Canada	0	151
Bolivia	139	0
Brazil	204	15
Columbia	80	19
Ecuador	30	0
Paraguay	17	0
Mexico	24	60
Total	127,900	74,688
Europe		
United Kingdom	0	0
Continental Europe		
Denmark	0	46
Norway	0	414
Sweden	2,899	5,512
France	0	4,469
Belgium	0	2,282
Netherlands	4,783	4,499
Switzerland	1,967	8,167
Spain	0	4,235
Portugal	0	45
Finland	0	809
Italy	0	1,350
Greece	0	214
Total	9,649	32,043
Russia	0	5,150
Total all countries	137,549	a/ 111,880

Compiled from information submitted from United States Embassy at Buenos Aires.

a/ In addition the following quantities of foreign in 1,000 pounds, were exported through Uruguayan ports: Argentine wool, 3,590; Chilean wool, 276; Brazilian wool, 324.

were still only 44 percent of the prewar average. The largest quantity was to Switzerland with Sweden coming next.

Wool has been shipped to a number of European countries this season which were blockaded during the war, such as France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy. About 5 million pounds of wool were exported to Russia in May. These were the first exports to that country directly from Uruguay since the 1940-41 season.

The smaller quantity remaining for export during the last 3 months of the current season as compared with the last two seasons is due to a smaller carrying at the beginning of the season and smaller production. Production for 1945-46 is still estimated at 138 million pounds, a reduction of 9 percent compared with the revised estimate of 152 million pounds for 1944-45. This decrease appears to be confirmed by reduced receipts at Montivideo for the first 8 months of the season of about 12 percent.

GRAINS GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDS (con't)

SOVIET UNION"S GRAIN OUTLOOK LESS FAVORABLE

The outlook for the 1946 harvest deteriorated somewhat between the middle of June and early July due to abnormally hot weather and insufficient rain over a large area of Central European Russia. Some improvement, however, has resulted from recent rains.

In southern Ukraine, Crimea, and Bessarabia, grain prospects appear to be poor. Better conditions prevail in northern Ukraine, other western and northern regions of the Soviet Union, and North Caucasus. In the Asiatic part of the country, good harvest prospects are indicated.

The overall grain yields for the Soviet Union, based on early July conditions, are not likely to exceed the low average of recent years, and may be below average. With both yields and acreage below prewar, grain production would be considerably smaller than the prewar volume.

Rapid ripening of winter grain advanced the harvest 10 to 15 days in the south and southeast, and the gap between the maturity of winter and spring grain has been narrowed. Large-scale harvesting began in the irrigated regions of Central Asia and Transcaucasia where the yields were reported as good. The harvesting of winter grain in the Ukraine is in full progress in the south and is extending from day to day.

Soviet press reports stress the need of speeding up the harvest to avoid losses, and urge immediate deliveries of required grain to government procuring agencies.

CANADA'S WHEAT ACREAGE LARGER

The 1946 wheat acreage in Canada's Prairie Provinces, is reported at 25,178,000 acres, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' preliminary

estimate. The reported increase in wheat seedings is less than was indicated by farmers' intentions to plant, as of April 30.

The increase, compared with the 1945 acreage in these Provinces was 2.6 million acres, or a gain of about 12 percent, despite a request that acreage be held at the 1945 level. The larger wheat area was accomplished mainly through shifts from oats, barley and summer fallow. A small increase in rye acreage was largely balanced by a reduction in flaxseed.

All three Provinces contributed substantially to the expansion in wheat acreage, but the increase was largest in Saskatchewan, with an increase of about 1.2 million acres reported. Increases in Manitoba and Alberta were each about 0.7 million acres. The Canadian wheat acreage outside the Prairie Provinces amounted to about 0.8 million acres a year ago.

The area seeded to oats was 9,610,000 acres, or 1.1 million acres less than in 1945. The barley acreage of 6,269,000 acres was a decline of about 0.6 million acres, from 1945. About a million acres of land in summer fallow was seeded to grains, leaving the land in summer fallow at 18,906,000 acres during the current season.

CANADA: Seeded acreage of principal grain crops and summer fallow in the Prairie Provinces, 1946 with comparisons

Province	Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Summer fallow
		1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
Manitoba	1946	2,835	1,598	1,883	2,016
	1945	2,132	1,697	2,139	2,452
1946 as percent of	1945	133	94	88	82
Saskatchewan	1946	14,843	5,055	2,484	11,271
	1945	13,610	5,717	2,672	11,692
1946 as percent of	1945	109	88	93	96
Alberta	1946	7,500	2,957	1,902	5,619
	1945	6,824	3,335	2,048	5,715
1946 as percent of	1945	110	89	93	98
Prairie Provinces	1946	25,178	9,610	6,269	18,906
	1945	22,566	10,749	6,859	19,859
1946 as percent of	1945	112	89	91	95

Compiled from reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

The preliminary estimate of the corn acreage planted for grain in Canada was 244,000 acres in 1946 compared with 237,000 acres for the preceding year. The hay and clover acreage was reported at 10,024,000 acres, or a decline of about 2 percent from 1945. A larger reduction is indicated for alfalfa, which is placed at 1,488,000 acres compared with 1,587,000 acres a year ago.

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